

**Foxboro Council on Aging and Human Services Board Meeting  
June 17, 2010**

**Present:** Chairperson Joanne Pratt, Colin Haney, Wendy Haney, Elaine Biggieri, Lloyd Gibbs, Jerry Norwood, Vivian Pitts, Jeanne Bonneau, Ann Alibrandi and Director Vicki Lowe

**Meeting called to order at 5: pm  
Minutes accepted of May 26, 2010**

Joanne introduced Noreen Sherys, the social worker for the town. At a previous meeting it was requested that she come and explain the services that she helps the town residents obtain. Noreen explained she receives many and varied requests for services. She spoke of these services such as HESSO, mental health issues, the Food Pantry, working with the school department to address issues such as bullying and substance abuse. Noreen informed the Board of the Life Line Program, Low Vision Support Group, The Talking Book Club, Bereavement Group, Domestic Violence Group, Alzheimer Support Group, and the Friendly Visitor. Noreen helps people fill out forms to receive services. Noreen stated that her job is to refer people to the services they need and during these economic times she is receiving more requests.

Vicki attended the LOHSC (Local Officials Human Services Council) annual meeting last Friday. The topic of discussion was how difficult it is for Human Services agencies to have the public educated about what they do, so that when budgets are being cut, people already understand the value of their programs and will fight for them when cuts are being discussed.

**Budget:**

We are doing okay with our budget. We have upgraded some My Senior Center equipment. The door ended up only needing a repair rather than a replacement; we've restocked supplies; we will be getting additional phones and electrical outlets in the basement. We will have about \$1400.00 +/- that will go towards the electric work for the HVAC upgrade the Friends are providing for us. Vicki has cleared this with Andy.

**Director's Report:**

- Our computers have been off and on since last Friday. This is a town-wide problem. Rich Lincoln the IT person is aware and responsive, but is spread thin. Once school is out he will be changing us to the server at Town Hall.
- Prevett Heating contractors has installed one of the two units to better manage climate controls in the two back rooms. These units have remote control rather than thermostats. They expect to mount the other unit tomorrow. Then they need to be wired by the electrician.
- Paul Carr has been filling in during Ray's absence and is doing a great job.
- Vicki is on the Community Education Committee of the Task Force for Bullying and Harassment. We would like to have public service announcements in newsletters and on cable. She is working with Mike Webber to have some town

official do short segments that will appear on cable during lulls in the program (i.e.- time out at a sports event)

- SAFE Foxboro is asking all Foxboro residents to complete a survey about teen substance abuse. We will have surveys and offer the computer lab.

**Programs:**

- Chorus had their last session on June 2. Jack Craig will be coming on Wednesdays in July to fill that time slot.
- Maureen Carderelli the public health nurse did a Shingles presentation here and was a guest on Your Scene, Your Center.
- The Uncommon Picnic was great. The seniors really pitched in to do skits and make it one of the best picnics yet. Paul Gookin puts a lot of work into it. He's saying this was his last year.
- Founder's Day – this year the van/ car were not in the parade. We advertised and had a sign up on the counter asking for volunteers to help decorate and to ride in the van and car during the parade. We only had a handful of people sign up so we decided not to have it this year. Maybe if we do a float or something to psych people up that would help getting more involvement. People don't want to miss the parade by being in it.

**New Business:**

See handouts on Changes in Open Meeting Law effective 7/1/10. Under the new Law the agenda for the meeting must be posted before the meeting.

An intern from Bridgewater College will be helping at the start of the school year. Vicki said the intern has in past been very useful for helping with Fuel Assistance Program

HESSCO report from June 9, 2010.

**Friends Update:** The new air conditioning unit cost was \$10,000, and the electrical work was \$2,500 for a new box and new plugs which were needed to operate this new equipment. Any expenses regarding this up date that Vicki's budget cannot cover the Friends will pay. Vicki also stated that she had contacted the Highway Department for changes to the handicapped parking and building a ramp at the back door. The Friends have stated they would help with these additional expenses.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35  
Respectfully submitted  
Ann Alibrandi

**NEXT MEETING IS September 17, 2010**

